

Amendments to The Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1-12. (Canceled)
13. (Currently amended) A method for activating a postsynaptic membrane of a cell, comprising contacting the cell with an effective amount of a biglycan therapeutic, ~~such that the postsynaptic membrane is activated~~ wherein the biglycan therapeutic activates muscle, skeletal, receptor tyrosine kinase (MuSK) on the cell, wherein the cell is situated in a human subject.
14. (Canceled)
15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the biglycan therapeutic potentiates agrin-induced phosphorylation of MuSK.
16. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the biglycan therapeutic upregulates utrophin levels.
- 17-31. (Canceled)
32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the biglycan therapeutic is a polypeptide including a biglycan amino acid sequence which is at least about 90% identical to SEQ ID NO: 9, ~~or a portion thereof~~.
33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the biglycan therapeutic binds to MuSK.
34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the biglycan amino acid sequence includes one or more Leucine Rich Repeats (LRRs) of human biglycan having SEQ ID NO: 9.
35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the polypeptide is derivatized with one or more glycosaminoglycan (GAG) side chains.
36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the biglycan amino acid sequence is at least about 90% identical to amino acids 38-365 of SEQ ID NO: 9.
37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the biglycan amino acid sequence is at least about 95% identical to amino acids 38-365 of SEQ ID NO: 9.

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the cell is a muscle cell.
39. (New) A method for activating a postsynaptic membrane of a cell in vitro or ex vivo, comprising:
- i) contacting the cell with an effective amount of a biglycan therapeutic; and
 - ii) assaying activity of muscle, skeletal, receptor tyrosine kinase (MuSK),
- wherein elevated activity of MuSK indicates activation of the postsynaptic membrane of the cell.